Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-33 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 12, 13, 23, and 24 being the independent claims. No new matter has been added.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Objections to the Specification

In section 2 of the Office Action, the abstract was objected to because "Title of the Invention" appears at the top of page 27. Applicants have amended the abstract accordingly.

In section 3 of the Office Action, the disclosure was objected to because reference to application number of U.S. Patent No. 6,681,255 should be updated to reflect the patent number. Applicants have amended the disclosure accordingly.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In section 4 of the Office Action, claims 1-33 were rejected as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0229638 to Carpenter *et al.* (hereinafter Carpenter). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 calls for matching the data to one of a plurality of employment market categories. The Office Action relies on paragraphs 0019-20, 0036, and 0042-3 to allegedly teach this feature. The cited paragraphs are as follows:

[0019] The present invention builds on the technology of job spidering and aggregation and incorporates it into the employment field. For example, the working set of web sites which this system spiders includes the entire Internet director ("Dot Com database"). Thus, both companies and job boards are included in the job posting collection. Furthermore, the use of spidering technology is extended to resume collection as well as spidering of job postings. This allows the creation of a much more comprehensive and complete database of the available employment data.

[0020] The present invention also applies a concept based search engine to the employment search and match problem. As noted above, prior art search engine web sites are commonly based on keyword search engine technology. In its simplest form, a keyword search takes a set of comma delimited user input words and scans its document set for one or more word or partial word matches. Keyword searches, however, have been enhanced to include word count statistics, i.e., how often a word appears in a document increases its relevancy, and boolean operators, i.e., a user can search for specific terms to return documents that must contain both words. Unfortunately, these searches remain as simple word pattern matching technology, and the casual Internet user does not necessarily possess a clear understanding of query word relevancy or boolean logic.

[0036] The dedicated spidering server 12 is used to search the Internet for the employment data. FIG. 10 provides a table showing an example of employment data 28

or information available via the Internet 18. Once the employment is located, relevant information is loaded into the database 16. The dedicated search, retrieve and process server 14 provides the user the ability to search the database 16 for employment data. Users include corporation representatives seeking to fill a position, agents working for the corporations, as well as individuals seeking an employment position. The process server 14 also conducts automatic searches of the database for matching employment data (i.e., matching jobs and resumes).

[0042] The content processing step 42 of FIG. 2 consists of further processing the content, which is temporarily stored in the spider content database 38. The processing dictionary 44 consists of a concept based search engine, which is similar to the prequalify dictionary 32. The search engine has been loaded with additional template documents that enable spidered content to be parsed and scrubbed prior to being loaded into the searchable content database 46. The content processing step 42 is shown in greater detail in FIG. 5. The content processing step 42 is responsible for processing each retrieved document into a format that is suitable for indexing into the searchable content database 36. The processing dictionary 44 contains a concept based search engine, which has been configured with documents that contain specific job titles, job descriptions and resume descriptions. The dictionary 44 is used to measure the relevance of each spidered content document to determine whether is should be classified as a job-posting, resume or irrelevant, at which time the content is discarded. Another task of step 42 is the parsing and analysis of web pages, which contain multiple sets of information. For example, a single web page, which contains 15 different job positions, is broken down into 15 separate documents utilizing available advanced document

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parsing technology. Each document would contain its own title and specific job location information. The improved content results in a search experience that is clear and concise to the user.

[0043] Step 5.5 consists of reading the processing dictionary 44. Step 5.3 consists of reading the next record from the spidered content data base 38. Step 5.5 strips the document of its hypertext markup language (HTML) commands. The stripped document is evaluated by step 5.6 for its length requirements, and is scanned at step 5.7 and 5.8 to identify the location information (city, state, and zip code), and the e-mail address information.

Contrary to the assertions of the Examiner, nothing in Carpenter teaches or suggests matching the data to one of a plurality of employment market categories, as set forth in Applicants' claim 1.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1.

Furthermore, independent claims 12, 13, 23, and 24 also distinguish over Carpenter for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to independent claim 1, and further in view of their own respective features.

Moreover, claims 2-11, which depend from independent claim 1, claims 14-22, which depend from independent claim 13, and claims 25-33, which depend from independent claim 24, also distinguish over Carpenter for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to independent claim 1, and further in view of their own respective features.
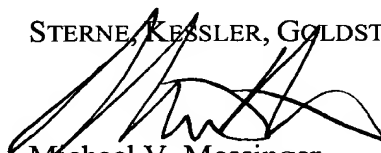
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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